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# New Buffalo Times

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## BEACHWATCH...

## NEW BUFFALO LIFEGUARDS KEEPING BEACHGOERS SAFE WITH EMILY, SAFETY EQUIPMENT

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PHOTO OF A RESCUE SCENARIO WITH EMILY BEING SIMULATED AT NEW BUFFALO PUBLIC BEACH BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

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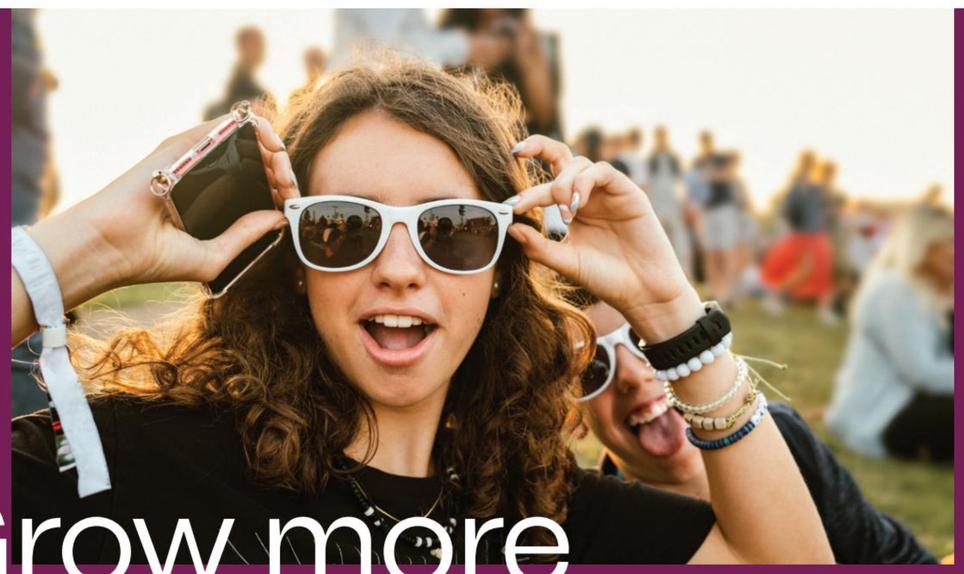

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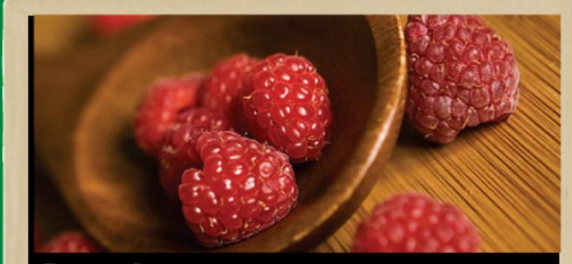
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Customers flocked to Zo's Mini Donuts' New Buffalo location

Zoey and Lydia Heyn pose by the Zo's Mini Donuts signature pink truck

# Zo's Mini Donuts debuts New Buffalo location

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

After a successful first run last summer, Zo's Mini Donuts has popped up in a second location.

A food truck that was splashed in cotton candy colors was parked at 200 West Buffalo St. Monday, July 1, for the business' soft opening in New Buffalo.

Zo's Mini Donuts will continue to serve up owner Zoey Heyn's homemade mini donuts at 12816 Red Arrow Highway in Sawyer.

Since becoming a businesswoman last summer, Zoey, who's a 16-year-old incoming high school junior, has employed six people to help her run her sweet venture.

"I hired a few good friends - they're just going to be great," she said.

Zoey said she'll still make it down to the Sawyer location, especially for the Sunset Specials, which run from 8-10 p.m. there.

She said New Buffalo is "the best community."

"They seem so inviting, so nice and I just wanted to be a part of it," she said.

Glazed donuts are 5 for $6, cinnamon and sugar is 5 for $5, powdered sugar is 5 for $5 and donut holes (if in stock) are 10 for $5.

Heyn didn't divulge too many details about how the donuts, which rely on a family recipe, are made.

"We've learned a little more about efficiency, more about the decorating – other than that, nothing has changed drastically," she said.

Entrepreneurship runs in Zoey's family: Her father, David, is the executive director of Harbor Country Mission, a nonprofit organization in Bridgman. Her brother runs Beach Boys Window Washing and her sister Lydia, who calls herself Zoey's "partner," works in real estate at @ properties as well as does investments.

"This is my morning job," she said.

Zo's Mini Donuts will be open from 9-11 a.m. Monday through Saturday in New Buffalo for the summer. It'll be open from 8-11 a.m. every day in Sawyer, including at night for the weekends.

Follow the business on Facebook or Instagram @ zosminidonuts.

***Don't stand in your own way.***
***Practice Contentment.***
***Where you ask?***
***Where you don't control***
***and where you do control.***
*— Dino N. Fatouros*

# Local Government Meetings

## New Buffalo Times

**Democracy Requires Transparency**

**CITY OF NEW BUFFALO**
JOHN HUMPHREY, MAYOR
**CITY COUNCIL**
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJESKI, JOHN HUMPHREY, BRIAN FLANAGAN, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
**CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
**NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD**
PETE RAHM, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, JACK ROGERS
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
**NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
**SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY**
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
**NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY**
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
**NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD**
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, BRADLEY BURNER, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP**
**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD**
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, BILL MARSKE
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
**THREE OAKS**
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM

VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
**GRAND BEACH**
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday October thru March at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER BLAKE O'HALLORAN, JAMES BRACEWELL, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
**MICHIANA**
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

# Berrien County Health Department partnering with Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center, First Church of God on addressing opioid issues

The Berrien County Health Department is partnering with Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center and First Church of God to address opioid abuse in the community as part of the county's national opioid settlement payment.

Between 2019 and 2022, Berrien County saw a 115% increase in opioid-related deaths, going from 22 to 45. Over the next 15 years, the county will receive approximately $8.6 million in the national opioid settlement with pharmaceutical distributors, manufacturers and retailers. This funding will be used to help prevent substance abuse disorders, reduce opioid deaths and assist individuals in recovery throughout Berrien County.

Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center and First Church of God were selected as recipients of opioid settlement funding as part of a competitive process. The Berrien County Opioid Settlement Review Committee made funding recommendations to the Berrien County Board of Commissioners for approval.

Each organization will receive funding over three years to develop, implement, enhance or expand programming to address opioid prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery.

Sacred Heart will receive $484,286 to expand opioid treatment services and peer recovery programming. First Church of God will receive $420,112 to open and operate two transitional living homes for men leaving inpatient rehabilitation centers or prison.

"We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to partner with Sacred Heart and First Church of God as we continue to work together as a community to address opioid abuse disorders and deaths in Berrien County," Health Officer Guy Miller said. "These are two long standing, trusted organizations whose programs complement the Berrien County Health Department's substance use education and prevention initiatives."

With the opioid settlement funding, Sacred Heart will hire one additional full-time outpatient therapist and two additional full-time peer recovery coaches at its Serenity Hills Recovery and Wellness Center.

The therapist will enable Sacred Heart to increase its outpatient caseload to 65 individuals each year. The peer recovery coaches will support patients in withdrawal management and residential settings as well as connect them with essential services and resources.

"As the only withdrawal management and residential provider in Berrien County, Serenity Hills is uniquely positioned to leverage these opioid settlement dollars for significant community impact," said Paula Nelson, president and CEO of Sacred Heart. "We have seen the devasting impact of the opioid epidemic in our community and are committed to helping address the myriad of challenges it brings to individuals and families.

"These dollars will enable us to enhance our work and walk alongside more community members in their treatment and recovery journeys. We are grateful to the Berrien County Opioid Settlement Task Force for its faith in our programs and services."

First Church of God's new transitional living homes will provide both housing and wraparound services, including individualized counseling and coaching, substance use disorder treatment, job training, life skills workshops, financial wellness and literacy classes, physical fitness activities and transportation, among others.

"We know a person's living environment plays a crucial role in the recovery process and that transitional homes significantly improve treatment outcomes," said the Rev. Jaime Cervantes, Benton Heights campus pastor at First Church of God. "Our new transitional living homes will offer a safe, stable and supportive living environment, helping to prevent relapse and reduce recidivism. These homes will enable residents to build healthy social networks, reintegrate into the community and have long-term lasting success after they complete the program.

"We are thankful for the Berrien County Opioid Settlement Task Force's support and partnership in this work."

The Opioid Settlement Task Force was created by the Berrien County Board of Commissioners in spring 2023 to engage community members in how the county should use the settlement dollars to address opioid abuse. The task force included staff from the Berrien County Health Department, Sheriff's Office and Prosecutor's Office as well as two county commissioners and representatives from community organizations affected by the opioid epidemic.

The task force presented its recommendations to the Board of Commissioners in September 2023, and funding was awarded this spring.

— STAFF REPORTS

***I can't trust anyone—issa fake everywhere.*** — *Lil Durk*

Lifeguards simulate a scenario with EMILY at New Buffalo Public Beach

Members of the City of New Buffalo's lifeguard crew with EMILY

Head lifeguard Gavin Ales and captain Alex Tellez stand by the trailer full of emergency equipment

# New Buffalo lifeguards keeping beachgoers safe with EMILY, safety equipment

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Thanks to the donation of EMILY, as well as the investment in various other equipment, beachgoers will be a whole lot safer at New Buffalo Public Beach this summer.

According to Kristen D'Amico, the city's park director, EMILY, which stands for Emergency Integrated Lifesaving Lanyard, was donated to the two beaches with the only known municipal lifeguard program on Michigan's side of the Great Lakes: New Buffalo's beach and St. Joseph's Silver Beach.

The robotic device, which is a remote-controlled paddle boat, is used by lifeguards to rescue swimmers.

The device was donated by the families of Emily MacDonald and her boyfriend, Kory Ernster, who both drowned at South Haven's South Beach in 2022.

"Both the boy and the girl were very passionate about water safety so when that happened, the families decided to donate EMILY to two beaches in Michigan as a memorial to them and to, hopefully, make the beaches safer so it doesn't happen to anyone else," D'Amico said.

Via a remote control, the flotation device will dash through the waves to a person who's in distress.

"They can hold onto it until a rescuer can get to them....If they have to, they can bob around out there holding onto it for a long time," City of New Buffalo Police Chief Rich Killips said,

Head lifeguard Gavin Ales said that EMILY can get out to a person "a lot faster than a lifeguard can."

"While it might not be strong enough to pull somebody back in, as long as the victim that's drowning out there is conscious, they're going to easily be able to grab onto it and give the lifeguard more time to get out there," he said.

In the event of a drowning, time is crucial, Alex Tellez, lifeguard captain, said.

"There's not a lot of time when somebody notices they're in trouble and they go into that panic mode before they go underwater, so having something like the EMILY, they can get out there much faster than us - it's very important just to make sure that it gives them their best chance at recovery," he said.

It happens innocently enough: a child trying to catch their bucket after a wave has grabbed hold of it and dragged it out into the water; an adult who's trying to retrieve their hat or other item after the winds have tossed it into the turbulent waves. Such was the case a couple weeks ago, when a man started chasing a frisbee that was blowing offshore.

"He got tired very quickly and started struggling, started drowning, so we went out there, got him and he made a full recovery," Tellez said.

No inflatables are allowed on the beach on offshore wind days, which Ales said are identified by an orange wind socket that's been put up in the tower or up in the parking lot.

"Anything like a beach ball or a frisbee or a little nerf football starts blowing outward, people will sprint and they may be able to swim at 100 yards at a normal pace but when they sprint and then they're out of energy and still don't have what they were chasing and look back at the shore and realize how far they are - there's just no way for them to make it back," he said.

D'Amico said that this year's lifeguard crew consists of eight lifeguards, all of whom are Red Cross certified and do training with the Great Lakes Surf Rescue Project.

In addition, they also complete daily training - doing simulation rescues and checking the currents. Ales is a lifeguard certified trainer and instructor, so the lifeguards' training continues.

The lifeguards' job will be made easier with having the new emergency equipment, which Killip said was acquired with funds from the city's General Fund, right on the beach.

He said the city retrofitted the beach's side by side ATV with a full load of medical equipment, including stokes baskets and stretchers.

Also added was an emergency trailer that has very similar equipment on it, such as rescue baskets, backboards and all of the lifeguards' medical equipment.

"We've got this brand new trailer, which makes it a lot easier for us in the case of a spinal injury or heat stroke or anything - we usually have to grab the beach crew there or the police's side by side to do anything but now we have our own with the ATV," Ales said.

Having lifeguards onsite greatly prevents emergency situations from occurring, Killip said.

"They're here and can get the word out and let people know they need to stay out of the water because people don't read signs as much as they should," he said.

Alex Austin

Hannah Baird

Emily Barnes

Sadie Gustafson-Zook

Sam Robbins

Andy Sydow

# The Acorn announces 2024 Singer-Songwriter Competition finalists

Six finalists are set to shine in The Acorn's 12th annual Singer-Songwriter Competition Friday, July 19.

A panel of esteemed judges and the Acorn audience will participate as six finalists take the stage for this thrilling performance, with the field narrowing to the "top three" artists over the course of two rounds.

This year's finalists are Alex Austin, Hannah Baird, Emily Barnes, Sadie Gustafson-Zook, Sam Robbins and Andy Sydow.

Alex Austin is a singer-songwriter hailing from Wayland, Michigan, and the leader of the West Michigan band, Deerfield Run, His debut solo album, "Nobody's Home," was released in February 2024, with a live EP that was scheduled for release in April 2024.

Hannah Baird is a songwriter from St. Joseph, Michigan. She's been writing in some capacity (poetry, stories, songs, etc.) for the past 10-15 years, but really started pouring into music in college. Baird credits music as being mainly her way of processing life and the journey of growing and healing and discovering and becoming.

With a diverse four albums and many miles under her belt, Emily Barnes is a seasoned singer-songwriter. Barnes has had the honor of performing stages such as Kerrville Folk Festival New Folk Competition, Showcase Artist for Folk Alliance, Blast on the Bay Emerging Songwriter and Whitefish Songwriter's Contest finalist.

Based in Goshen, Indiana, Sadie Gustafson-Zook's songs have been endorsed by some of the most respected songwriting contests from across the country, winning Kerrville Folk Festival's 2022 New Folk Contest (as well as placing as a finalist in 2020), earning second place at the Rocky Mountain Folk Fest's Songwriter Showcase, and winning first place at the NewSong + LEAF Songwriting Contest. She's also been featured on the Basic Folk podcast and on Folk Alley.

A nationally touring musician whose music evokes classic singer songwriters like James Taylor and Jackson Browne, Sam Robbins adds a modern, upbeat edge to the storyteller troubadour persona. An avid performer, he has gained recognition from extensive national touring, as one of the six 2021 winners of the Kerrville Folk Festival New Folk competition, and as one of the four Falcon Ridge Folk Festival's "Most Wanted" in 2023. Leading songwriting workshops and exciting performances across the country, Robbins has gained a reputation as one of the brightest rising stars in the national folk music community.

An accomplished multi-instrumentalist who's lyrics paint a picture of poetic realism, the Nashville based, Colorado native, Andy Sydow, tours consistently, both solo and with a backing band. Sydow was named a finalist in the Telluride Troubadour Contest (2024), LEAF Songwriter Contest (2024), Kerrville New Folk Songwriter Competition (2023 & 2021), Falcon Ridge Folk Festival Songwriter Competition (2023), and International Songwriting Competition (2021). This fall, Sydow will release "Night Skin," a full length album produced by Anders Osborne.

Acorn favorite Peter Carey will be serving as host and emcee for the evening.

Judging the competition will be Donnie Biggins, Jayne Kelli & AJ Swearingen and Maggie Kubley.

The event will include a special guest performance by the 2020 Winner of the competition, Dylan Reed Leavitt.

Donnie Biggins is a singer/songwriter from Oak Park, Illinois. He is a member of Chicago's The Shams Band and owner/operator of Chicago music venue, Robert's Westside. Biggins is also the talent buyer for The Acorn. Biggins has been writing songs and performing live since 2005. He released his debut solo album, "Profiles," in November 2016. The album received press and airplay from the Chicago Tribune/Chicago Now, Glide Magazine, WGN Radio, WXRT, CHIRP Radio and Radio One Chicago.

With their siren harmonies and prolific songwriting, AJ Swearingen & Jayne Kelli's body of work has cemented them into the Americana scene, being hailed by Red Line Roots as artists "others would do well to emulate down the road." The duo achieved critical success with their independently released albums, "The Marrying Kind" and "Cold-Hearted Truth," earning features on Gretsch Guitar, Americana Highways, Cowboys & Indians Magazine and NY Country Swag.

Maggie Kubley's music, comedy, video works, and evening-length multimedia performance pieces have been presented at various music venues, (Lincoln Hall, Metro, Subterranean, Schubas, Constellation, Donald E Stevens Convention Center), listening rooms, storytelling events, performance salons, (Salonathon, Chicago Home Theatre Festival, CHIRP Radio's First Taste, Chicago Cultural Center, David and Reva Logan Center for the Arts) and theatre/music events (The Fly Honey Show, Taste of Chicago) throughout Chicago. The music of Celine Neon, Kubley's feminist-forward pop duo, has been featured in national commercials and has performed in venues throughout Chicago and Los Angeles. Kubley currently serves as the owner and lead educator at Noteworthy Music School, a community-minded music school in Plymouth, Indiana.

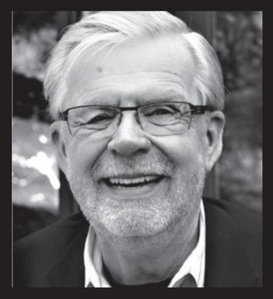
Dylan Reed Leavitt is a 20-year-old singer-songwriter hailing from Valparaiso, Indiana. Since the age of 13, Reed has deeply involved herself within the local music and theatre scene, and is soon to take her passion for songwriting to Berklee College of Music. Reed is known for poignant lyrics and tongue-in-cheek banter, and was the winner of the 2020 Acorn Singer-Songwriter Competition.

General admission tickets are $20. Reserved seating is available for $45. Tickets are available at acornlive.org.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and the show starts at 7 p.m. The Acorn Center for the Performing Arts is located at 107 Generations Drive in Three Oaks. — STAFF REPORTS

# SPORTS

## From the Bleachers



COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

Two of Chicago's sports teams added some youth to their teams through their league's annual draft last week.

The Bulls and the Blackhawks, both in various stages of rebuilding, both did a good job, according to the experts. Actually, I frown upon the way many teams, including all of Chicago's, are attempting to improve their rosters. The worse they can be for the longest period of time, allows a team to get early picks in their drafts, and in many cases that leads to vast improvements in the standings.

The problem is that for a period of time the teams that you are a fan of don't want to compete, and even though they want to lose, they still want their fans to come to the games, buy their merchandise and concessions, and be patient. For the most part, fans buy in to this approach.

They applauded the Cubs for their efforts the first time around, but so far this time it's not working as well. Expectations for the Bears are through the roof this season and it even appears that they are building a team that will be contenders for more than a year or two. The Blackhawks are in the middle of their rebuild and everyone seems to be happy with the results. They still have a long way to go but like the Bears, they seem to be doing it the right way. The White Sox first rebuild was a flop, and the current one is just beginning. The Bulls have avoided a rebuild until now, and have been roundly criticized for not being bad so they can get good.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the local teams had ownership's that cared as much for their fans as they did for the bottom line and put forth the time, money, and effort to consistently be among the best.

In the next month, the Cubs and Sox will probably try to improve their future at the expense of the current once again. Also about a month from now, the Bears exhibition season will begin and we will be better equipped to judge just how good they're going to be. The Bulls have started their rebuild by trading fan favorite Alex Caruso for a much younger player, Josh Giddey. The trade was met with mixed reactions but at least they got younger. Then they drafted Matas Buzelis giving them two young, athletic players to begin their rebuild. Many more moves will be made before next season begins. The Blackhawks chose Artyom Levshunov who played at Michigan State last year with their first pick. He's a skilled, big, tough defenseman who besides being a really good hockey player can help protect Connor Bedard. It looks like the Hawks are doing it right and in a few years, may be contenders for many years thereafter. Hopefully, good fortune will shine on all of our local teams.

Groucho Marx said, "Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

***I feel like if me and Lomachenko fight, I think I'd beat him worse than Teofimo. I just feel like I'd win every round.*** — *Shakur Stevenson*

Public Notice:
Your right to know!

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Nearly two-thirds of active Michigan voters* would be concerned if government placed these notices on websites because important information could be concealed from the public.

* EPIC-MRA 2011

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This newspaper supports your right to know.

# Dunes Summer Theatre to present 'Talley's Folly'

Guests to Dunes Summer Theatre can view Lanford Wilson's "Talley's Folly" from July 5-14.

"Talley's Folly" is the second installment in The Talley Trilogy, positioned between "Talley & Son" and "Fifth of July." Set in 1944, this charming, classic play unfolds in an abandoned Missouri boathouse, which becomes the site of an unexpected and evolving relationship between Matt Friedman, a middle-aged immigrant from Eastern Europe, and Sally Talley, an energetic young nurse.

Directed by Morgan McCabe and featuring Rob Morris as Matt and Amanda Tomczak as Sally, Dunes Summer Theatre's production of "Talley's Folly" is a witty and intimate story with wonderfully complex characters that the audience will recognize and relate to immediately.

"Working with two exceptional actors from Northwest Indiana on this play is a treat, they have so much passion for their characters," said McCabe. "The entire Dunes Arts' production staff—set, costume, sound design—all the elements are falling right into place. This kind of creative collaboration makes this a must-see this summer and it's a privilege to direct it."

Artistic Director Stephen Scott continues: "I've loved this play ever since I first saw it years ago—a love story in which two lost and isolated souls attempt to overcome their own obstacles to connect with each other. Morgan is the perfect director for this; I know that she'll bring out every ounce of humor, tenderness and joy in Matt and Sally's complex journey to that connection."

Showtimes are 7 p.m. CST (8 p.m. EST) Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. CST (3 p.m. EST) on Sundays. Bar and concessions open one hour prior to curtain. All shows take place at Dunes Summer Theatre at 288 Shady Oak Drive in Michigan City. Tickets ($35 each, $25 four or more) can be purchased at dunesARTS.org or by calling the box office at (219) 879-7509. Season subscriptions are still available ($150).

Guests can come early and have dinner on the patio. Cook Street Cafe (flavor of the region) will be providing a special "'southern" menu that can be added to guests' Talley's Folly tickets and delivered to the theatre before t 6 p.m. on Fridays and Saturday (Central Time). Reservations and payment must be made 48 hours prior to visits.

— STAFF REPORTS

# HIKERS PLAN TRIP TO LYDICK BOG THIS WEEKEND

The Harbor Country Hikers will travel to South Bend Saturday, July 6, to explore Lydick Bog and other artifacts left behind by the last Ice Age.

The hike will get underway at 10 a.m., with a brief introduction from Mari Patis, hike leader and programs coordinator for Shirley Heinze Land Trust, which maintains Lydick Bog Nature Preserve. During the hike, attendees will have a chance to walk onto the bog walkway and over neighboring kame moraines, left behind by glaciers thousands of years ago.

The preserve protects one of the last remaining sphagnum bog habitats in Indiana. Characteristic bog plants inhabit the preserve, such as winterberry, tamarack, large cranberry and carnivorous species like round-leaved sundew and pitcher plant.

Hikers are advised to wear long pants (preferably tucked in), a sun hat, sturdy shoes or boots and insect repellent, and to bring plenty of water. Although membership is preferred, all are welcome at this event, including children if accompanied by an adult. For more details, including driving directions to Lydick Bog, visit harborcountryhikers.com or the group's Facebook page.

The Hikers owns an all-terrain rollator--a wheeled walker with oversized tires for unpaved or uneven surfaces. The walker is available on a first-come, first-served basis by emailing harborcountryhikers@gmail.com.

— STAFF REPORTS

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# Longtime leader bids farewell to southwest Michigan

## IN PRAISE OF JUDY

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Despite having been a long time community leader, who has been behind several well-known initiatives and who has served on various boards, for the past 25 years, Judith Handley Zabicki was still surprised to see the crowd at her farewell party at the New Buffalo Township Public Safety Building Tuesday, June 25.

"I only expected eight people here today, so it's totally shocking to me," she said.

After visiting there for several years, Judith and her husband, David, were officially moving to Arizona that week.

"We have family down there and that's where my parents moved to and we always wanted to go there and retire...That was our plan and I believe everything happens for a reason and we're put in our spots for a reason," she said.

Adding that she and her husband have been boaters for the past 30 years, Zabicki said that there's no doubt that they've enjoyed their time as Michiganders.

"This is our life...It's a new phase and we're excited about it," she said.

Michelle Hannon, who stepped in as clerk of the New Buffalo Township Board when Zabicki retired last year, presented her with a tribute from the state of Michigan that was signed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist, state Rep. Joey Andrews and state Sen. Jonathan Lindsey.

"You were my role model long before I worked for you...Your professional and personal life exemplify public service," she said.

Zabicki was born and raised in southwest Michigan, having graduated from Lawrence High School before graduating from Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Before her tenure as clerk, for 20 years, Zabicki served as motor carrier officer for the Michigan State Police out of the Niles Post, "exemplifying her dedication to public safety and upholding the law with integrity and professionalism," the tribute said.

She retired Dec. 31, 2023, after serving as clerk for a total of 11 years.

"During her tenure, she played a pivotal role in shaping the township's future - implementing GIS mapping, codifying all ordinances, acquiring Pleasure Isle Marina and spearheading the construction of a new public safety building," the tribute stated.

Mark Parrish and Rhonda Keene pose with Judy Zabicki and her black ash basket, a gift from The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

Sue and Pete Rahm sign a card for Judy Zabicki while Dan Petersen looks on

The Pokagon Fund Executive Director Dan Petersen presents Judy Zabicki with a painting of a wintry scene

Judy Zabicki (right) mingles with her guests

New Buffalo Township Clerk Michelle Hannon presents a state tribute to Judy Zabicki

Longtime friends and supporters turn out for Judy Zabicki's party

Zabicki's "advocacy for parks and non motorized pathways, such as the Marquette Greenway and the linear trail along Red Arrow, has enriched the lives of residents and visitors alike, making New Buffalo Township a better place for all," it said.

Zabicki also was a member of the Berrien County Clerks' Association, where she served as vice chair and chair, while "furthering the interests of fellow clerks in the committees they serve."

She made contributions to the Pine Grove Cemetery Authority, was secretary and chairperson on The Pokagon Fund Board of Directors and served on the New Buffalo Railroad Museum Board of Directors.

While serving on the New Buffalo Area Schools Board of Education, Zabicki shook the hands of her daughters when they received their diplomas.

"Therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to Judith Handley Zabicki, whose tireless commitment, leadership and unwavering spirit of service have left an indelible mark on the New Buffalo community and beyond. May her legacy inspire future generations to continue her legacy of self dedication to the betterment of their communities," the tribute concluded.

In May, Zabicki helped the Fund secure a purchase agreement with the River Valley School Board of Education for the former Three Oaks Elementary School.

"I'm so happy we were able to get focused and get that before we left...That, to me, is going to be such a great thing for our service area," she said.

She added that The Pokagon Fund has put out over $28 million into the area.

"What area can be that lucky and fortunate?" Zabicki said.

Dan Petersen, executive director of The Pokagon Fund, presented Zabicki with a picture of a snowy winter scene as a "perpetual reminder" of what she's leaving behind.

He said that Zabicki's "depth of knowledge of what the community needs and having her thumb on the pulse of what's going on in the community has really been quite extraordinary."

"We've been very blessed to have her on our board as part of our team and leading it for the last couple years as chair... We're going to miss her and we wish her the best of luck in Arizona," he said.

Rhonda Keene and Mark Parrish from the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, who sit on The Pokagon Tribal Council, presented Zabicki with a black ash basket on behalf of the Pokagon Band.

"You are an inspiration to all for their communities... We try to service our community but I don't know if we'll ever live up to you," Keene said.

# Celebrate 75 years of the City of Bridgman

The City of Bridgman will be celebrating its 75th birthday Saturday, July 13, with a day packed full of celebrations and activities.

The birthday bash, organized by the Bridgman Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA), will include a variety of family-fun activities and opportunities to visit local merchants to commemorate the day.

"We wanted to make this a true community celebration and are so thrilled to see so many businesses involved on various levels. From hosting an event or activity in their space, participating in the parade, and encouraging their customers to join us for the day, we are all excited to celebrate Bridgman and its 75th birthday," said Hannah Anderson, chair of the CIA.

The birthday bash celebration will kick off with the Bridgman 5K/10K, & 1.1 Mile Fun Run starting at 8:30 a.m. Interested racers can sign up at runsignup.com/Race/MI/Bridgman/5K10K. Whether you're an avid runner or prefer a slower pace, there is a distance for everyone. Proceeds from the races will help to fund Bridgman Cross Country and Track & Field.

Throughout the day, additional activities will include a parade through downtown beginning at 11 a.m., free hot dogs and kids activities at Immanuel Lutheran Church, face paintings and balloon animals in the Courtyard, Autos & Ales Car Show at the Haymarket Taproom, a pop-up market at Transient Artisan Ales including Don Chepe's food truck and much more. The day will come to a close with a movie in the Courtyard with Bridgman Royalty, starting at dusk. Those wishing to participate in the parade can email organizer Sarah Buist at bridgmanparadecelebration.75@yahoo.com.

"We've had the opportunity to welcome visitors into our city at various events, including the Makers Trail Festival, Holiday Village and during Celebrate Bridgman, but to have this year be our 75th makes it extra special," said Jan Tapani, mayor of the City of Bridgman.

One of the featured events for the birthday bash is the return of Rhythm & Blues and Doo-Wop Hall of Fame members The Spaniels Forever featuring Billy Shelton, the "undisputed Godfather of Doo-Wop," Patrick Pitre, Phil Ratliff & Daniel "DP" Porter. Known as the first Midwestern R&B group, they will be performing at the Courtyard from 5-7 p.m.

Originally from Gary, Indiana, the group's first single, "Baby It's You," reached #10 on the Billboard's R&B charts. The following year, they released the song they are the most known for, "Goodnite Sweetheart," which hit #24 on the Variety pop-charts before rising to #5 on Billboard's R&B chart.

There will be birthday cards made by Bridgman's Elementary students at local merchants. Additionally, attendees will be able to enjoy food from local Bridgman restaurants, plus Social District beverages from Lake Street Eats and Transient Artisan Ales.

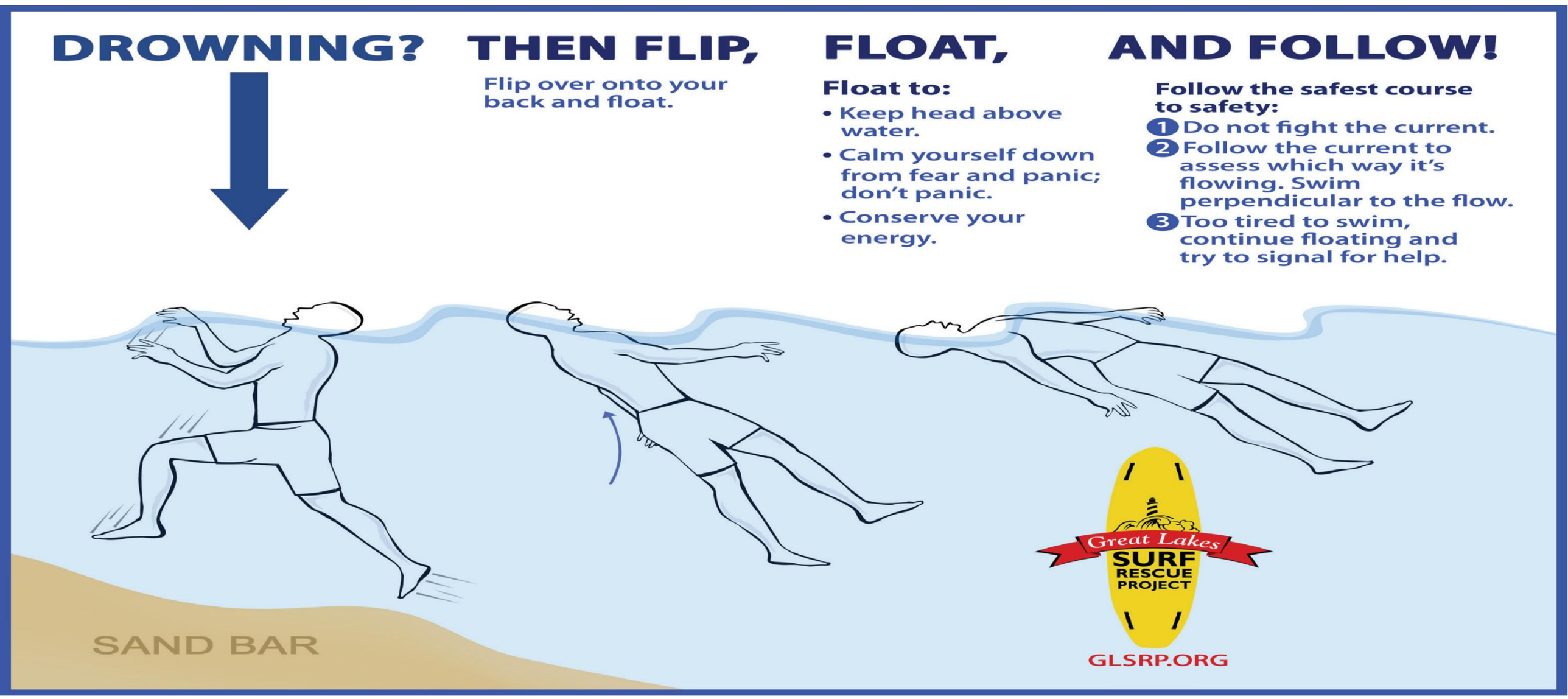
For more detailed information on Bridgman's 75th Birthday Bash, visit tinyurl.com/Bridgman75th.

Event sponsors are Indiana Michigan Power, Classic Catering & Events, A Friend of Bridgman, Arcadia Gardens, LLC, Casey's General Store, D'Agostino's Navajo, The Swab Agency Farm Bureau Insurance, Klipper's Family Salon, Liskey Insurance, McGee's heating & Cooling, Mayor Jan Trapani, Paws to Wash, United Federal Credit Union, & Wightman.

The event has been put on with support from the Greater Bridgman CGA and the Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber.

The Greater Bridgman Area CGA is a 501(c)3 organization with a mission to promote and grow the community through economic development in the City of Bridgman and Lake Charter Township.

The Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber of Commerce is a 501(c)6, member-driven, business advocacy, and collective-impact organization proudly serving Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren Counties. Using our expansive member-network and the power of our partnerships, we work to strengthen regional assets, advocate for regional priorities, and cultivate an economic ecosystem that prepares our region for future opportunity. — Staff Reports


DROWNING?
THEN FLIP,
Flip over onto your back and float.
FLOAT,
Float to:
• Keep head above water.
• Calm yourself down from fear and panic; don't panic.
• Conserve your energy.
AND FOLLOW!
Follow the safest course to safety:
1 Do not fight the current.
2 Follow the current to assess which way it's flowing. Swim perpendicular to the flow.
3 Too tired to swim, continue floating and try to signal for help.
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# STRAWBERRY SOCIAL IN NEW TROY

The New Troy Community Center will feature the Allan Boyd Memorial Strawberry Social, from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, July 14, in the gazebo garden.

The free event will feature a tempting array of strawberry desserts and cold drinks, along with live "big band" music by the Down by the Dock.

Every year since 2018, the Strawberry Social has been gifted to the community from the Boyd family. Both the event and the gazebo (which was also donated by the Boyd family) honor the memory of Allan Boyd (1925-2017). Allan grew up in New Troy and attended New Troy High School, which used to stand on the site of the current New Troy Township Park. As a young man, he owned a garage in the center of town. Later in life, he became township supervisor and remained a prominent figure in local politics for many years. His reminiscences of the town were featured in the movie, "New Troy: The Center of the World."

For more information, contact FriendsOfNewTroy@yahoo.com or Terry Hanover at 269-369-1897.

The New Troy Community Center is an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit organization, Friends of New Troy. It is located at 13372 California Road in New Troy.

— STAFF REPORTS

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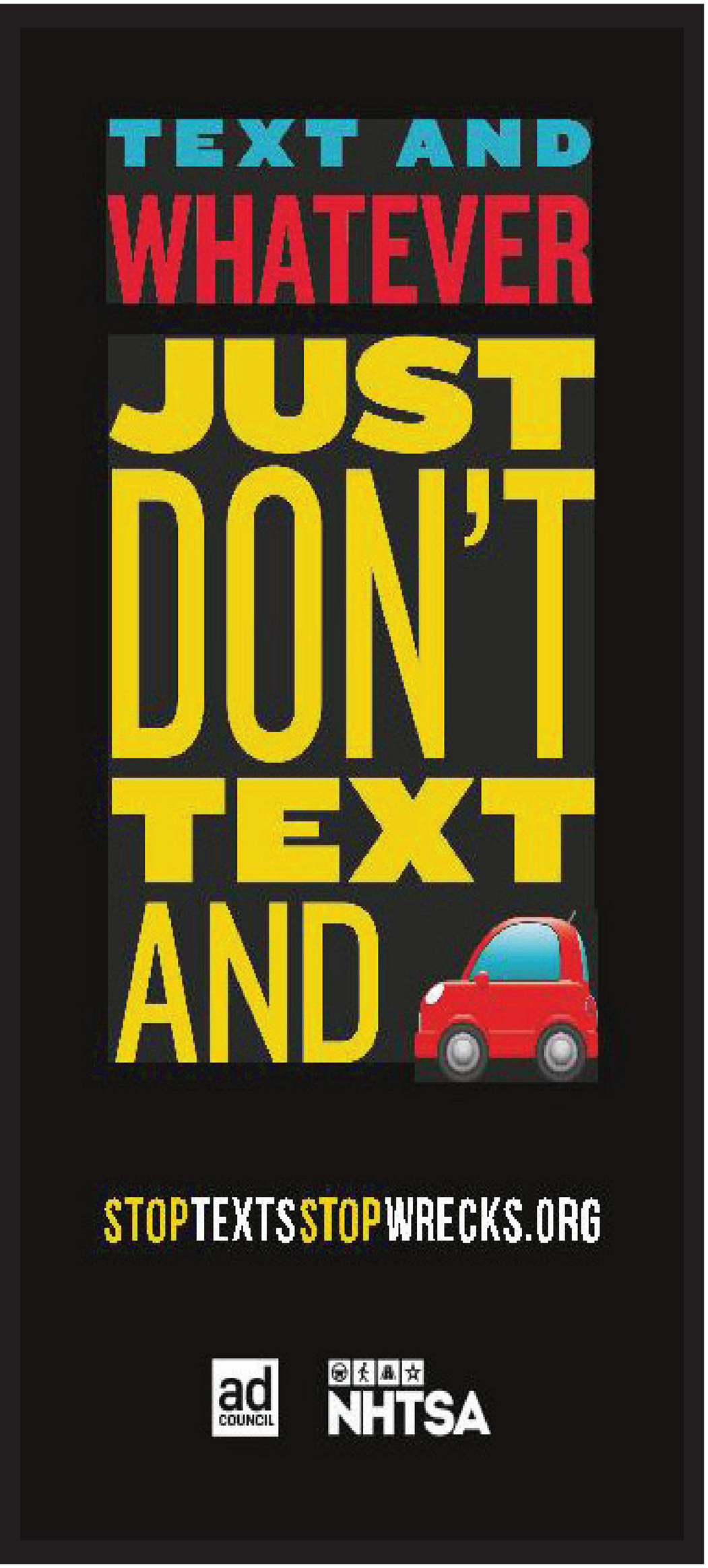



# A Day in the Life

## WATER CRISIS

BY LAWRENCE VON EBELER

Don't run water needlessly, there isn't enough now. Forget about watering the lawn, or having the kids play in the lawn sprinkler, refilling the pool or washing the car every week. Re-wash soiled clothes.

Why? The unthinkable has happened: We're running out of words you prayed you would never hear. The ocean is lower, the lakes and rivers are lower, the water pressure is fading and the water is running short. Yes, you heard right: We're running low on water! Phoenix has particularly been badly hit. The fields are running low on their greatest supplement. Lawns go unwatered and quickly dry up.

Wells are going dry from agriculture's pumping it to the max for the crops. What has become the norm for available water is frightening. The massive new Microsoft factory does not have the assurance of enough water to open the doors as was expected. Microsoft builds its new factories but is now unclear where they will get the massive water resources.

It doesn't look good.

I remember when we first moved to the farm and water seemed not to be an issue. There was a freshwater well that had an old pump; however, it didn't meet the needs of our conventional household and a barn full of cattle didn't help. The milk house took a large chunk of water for washing and the myriad of cleansing needs required watering twice a day, not to mention the cattle. It became a nightmare that had to be addressed. In the end, we drilled another well through very simple means. Our neighbor had a well drilling rig and came to our rescue by drilling a new well, with very little effort. He found a new supply of water after drilling less than 30 feet deep! Otherwise, it might have cost thousands.

My dad was a cleaning nutcase, even washing the manure spreader after each use of it. It was an irony that didn't escape me or the neighbors who would joke about it - it was a real waste of water.

After the barn's needs were fulfilled by the new well, there was no longer any anxiety for the future needs of a young family at the house. My mother used her chunk of water for her cooking and cleaning, washing clothes and all of a young family's needs (not the least of which was my bathing). We had a boondoggle shower that had no doors or shower curtain. Taking a shower meant never letting your elbows get far from your body, or water would pour onto the floor. Being of sound mind and body (for once), I took measurements for a new shower curtain rod and had to have a curved rod to accommodate the strange but comfortable width of the curtain to allow for protruding elbow drizzles to be contained. I took it to a pipefitter, who quickly cut me a new rod to hang the shower curtain. For the first time, we could now take a shower because the comfort of a new curtain allowed us to have some pleasure without having to hold your elbows in any longer. I was very proud of my inventiveness and recall feeling unappreciated by my family for the new comfort in the shower - which, by the way, drove our need for more water as a bi-product of my curved shower curtain creativity.

All of these water needs have elevated considerably over the years. Since the wells continued to serve our needs, we didn't really have to worry; however, that experience back then makes me wonder how the new family that bought the farm is doing for their water demands. Being of Amish affiliation, I suspect their wells are being used to the max.

They don't know how lucky they are.

Now we must all take note as a nation to minimize our H20 needs and shorten our showers and to never leave the water running endlessly without a real need. All of us should take stock and minimize as much of our need for water. We must observe this new water crisis before it's too late. "Smokey the bear" agrees: Forest fires use a lot of water.

# HOROSCOPE

## JULY 4-10, 2024

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

**ARIES** MARCH 21—APRIL 19

Open your mind to all the opportunities for happiness around you now. This is the time to open your heart and let the clouds give way to a sunnier outlook. Be the one to host the party and gather family for festivities. Let unexpected arrivals bring the drama, while you enjoy setting the table.

**TAURUS** APRIL 20—MAY 20

Friends can be a huge source of motivation now. Guard against becoming a push over but do get out more. Get into talking and sharing life experiences with people. This is the time to get more involved socially, open up to mentorship and finding those that nurture your sense of self.

**GEMINI** MAY 21—JUNE 21

The vibe this week is all about having something to show for all your hard work and dedication. There could be a feeling of not getting your fair share but know that your rewards are coming and the satisfaction of a job well done will sustain you for now. The financial reward is just slow in coming.

**CANCER** JUNE 22—JULY 22

The energy coming your way this week is all about self-discovery and finding inner motivation. Set things right in your world. Be more assertive in ways that are geared towards harmony and peace. Turn your focus towards standing in integrity and sharing who you are in ethical ways.

**LEO** JULY 23—AUGUST 22

This is the time to get financial negotiations worked out. Reach out to those in authority and make the negotiations happen. You will be blessed with a certain edge that will command respect from those in higher positions. So, reach out and handle business and finances with courage.

**VIRGO** AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

Start networking and getting together with people who are in the same field as you or that have the same hobbies. Having people around you that have similar experiences and know how will help propel your ideas to larger markets and give you insight into publicizing and promoting your business.

**LIBRA** SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

Let the abundance flow. The energy coming your way is all about satisfaction and feeling abundantly full. This is the time to be generous and to show your feelings. Spend time with partners and family. Create the space for getting together and the bonds will strengthen.

**SCORPIO** OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

It's' all about the journey this week. Even though you may have a destination or a place you would like your relationships and interactions to go, you may not have control over how they happen. It's like the movie 'Under the Tuscan Sun'; everything will come just not in ways you can control.

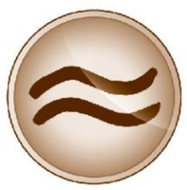
**SAGITTARIUS** NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

The energy coming your way this week has the ability to bring some unexpected fortune to your home and family but you have to be the one to make the first move. Invite people over and host the holiday festivities. Reach out to those who don't always participate; they'll be the life of the party .

**CAPRICORN** DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

Turn your focus to romance and matters of the heart this week. Open up to partners and let them know how you feel; good or bad. Let conversations be passionate, if necessary but clear the air. Open the space for healing and letting go. It's time to take things to a new and better level.

**AQUARIUS** JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



Gather the troops. This is the week to get large projects accomplished and celebrate a job well done. Take opportunity to thank those people that have helped and inspired you. Create an award type gathering, where you can express gratitude and put the spotlight on the crew.

**PISCES** FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

There is a very indulgent and fulfilling vibe to the week ahead. Embrace the energy of "to the heart's content." This is the time to fill your cup and share in the joys of looking at beautiful flowers and summer breezes. Take time to be outside with loved ones and enjoy some romancing.

***Do the thing you fear most and the death of fear is certain.***
*— Mark Twain*

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## Sudoku

*Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.*

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| 9 | | | | | | 7 | 4 | 1 |
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| | | 4 | | 9 | | | | |
| 6 | 7 | | 2 | | 1 | 4 | 8 | 5 |

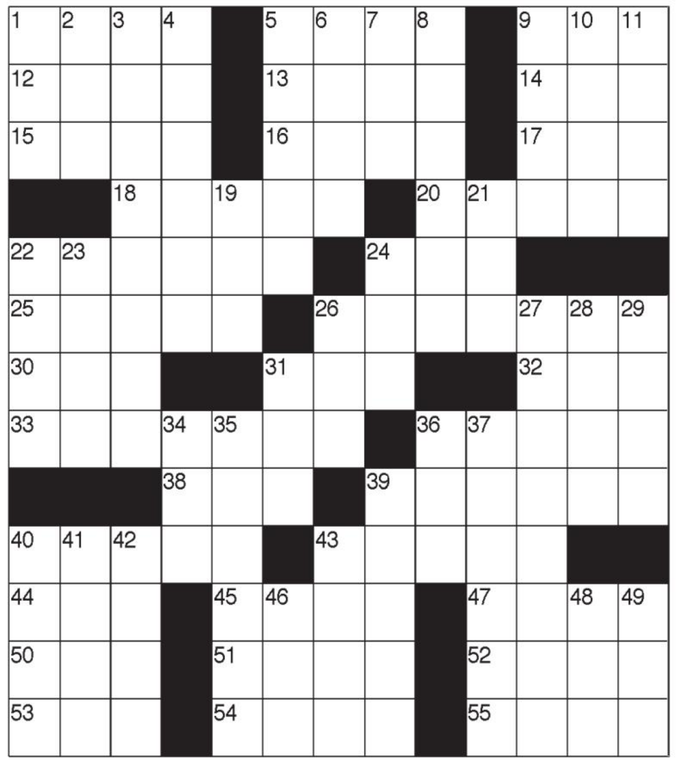
# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

1 Domino
5 Below (naut.)
9 Swab
12 Century plant fiber
13 Consort of Siva
14 Sayings (suf.)
15 Thick slice
16 Estrade
17 Malay gibbon
18 Marked with lines
20 Tree
22 Fuel ship
24 Ancient (abbr.)
25 City on the Loire
26 Papal church
30 Irish fortified place
31 Antiaircraft artillery (abbr.)
32 Where (Lat.)
33 Small sturgeon
36 Celebrated
38 Dawn: goddess
39 Capable of movement
40 Eye (pref.)
43 Father of Rachel
44 Sheep's cry
45 Slide
47 Carplike fish
50 Compass direction
51 Your (Ger.)
52 Italic (abbr.)
53 Harass
54 Baseball team
55 Air (pref.)

### DOWN

1 Miles per second (abbr.)
2 Trouble
3 Mole
4 Jap. drama
5 Viper
6 Guide
7 Egg (pref.)
8 Aurochs
9 Polynesian breech-cloth
10 Son of Judah
11 Beseech
19 Article (Fr.)
21 Before common era (abbr.)
22 Tablespoon (abbr.)
23 Settled
24 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
26 Buddhist column
27 Mull
28 Brother of Seth
29 Pheasant brood
31 Rom. bronze
34 Electric reluctance unit
35 Unfasten
36 Foist
37 Abbey (Sp.)
39 Mother (Ital.)
40 Foreboding
41 Woman's work basket
42 Rhinoceros beetle
43 Legal claim
46 Knond language
48 Vehicle
49 Teacher of Samuel



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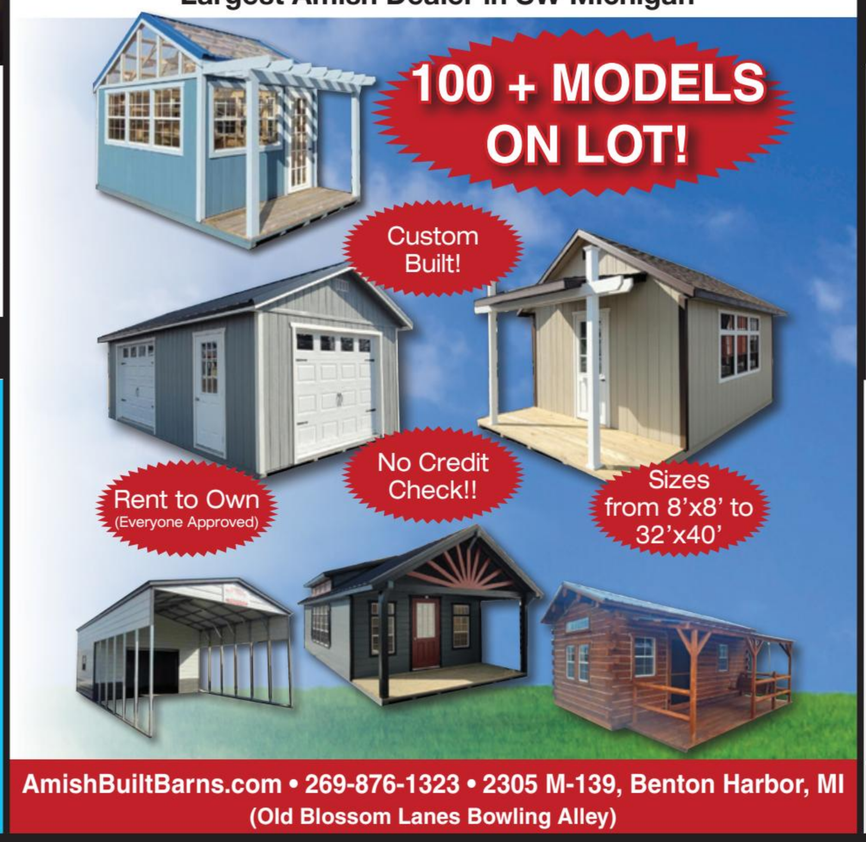

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# Hit the area's trails during #10Trail Challenge

Chikaming Open Lands' #10Trail Challenge has returned for the seventh year in a row.

Throughout the month of July, hikers are invited to hike the featured trails, snap their photo in the selfie stations along the way and win prizes. COL is proud to partner with local business sponsors, county parks and other land conservancies, and the Michigan DNR to bring everyone this fun-filled, competitive hiking challenge.

To sign up for the #10Trail Challenge, participants can fill out a registration form at chikamingopenlands.org. Participation is free. Only one registration form can be completed per household.

Selfie clues can also be found at the above website. While hiking, hikers should keep an eye out for "selfie stations" (they look like giant picture frames). Snap a picture in the selfie station and tag COL on Facebook or Instagram by typing @chikamingopenlands in the caption. Selfies can also be emailed at col@chikamingopenlands.org. COL must receive selfie station pictures for participants to claim prizes. Frames will be out from July 1-31.

Hikers who hike any five to nine trails and send in the selfies receive their choice of one $5 gift card (one per registration/household) to either Infusco Coffee, Scoops or Issa Vibe Cafe. Hikers who hike any 10 to 14 trails and send in the selfies receive their choice of one $10 gift card (one per registration/household) to either Biggby Coffee, Nola Roux, or Burn 'Em Brewing.

Hikers can also take it to the extreme with the #Extreme15 by hiking all 15 trails to qualify for a special prize drawing from one of COL's sponsors. Those entered into the Extreme15 drawing will also receive a $10 gift card of their choice.

Bathroom facilities are not offered at most preserves, so hikers are asked to "take care of business" before they begin their hike to have a comfortable and fun day. All trailhead locations offer parking. Please visit each location's website before heading out on your hike. Dogs are permitted on all preserve trails but must be on a 6-foot leash at all times. Hikers should pick up after their pet.

By submitting their photos, hikers permit COL to share them on its website, Instagram page, Facebook page and in print materials.

Hikers can meet up with fellow #10trailers and hike a featured trail as a group as part of Hike and Hang, followed by a social hour at SideYard in Sawyer. Hikes start at 4pm. For more information and to download an event flier, visit chikamingopenlands.org.

Hikers can join COL for the Weekend Picture Challenge every Friday-Sunday in July for the chance to win additional prizes. Each weekend will have a different theme. Hikers an follow that weekend's theme, take their #10Trail selfie and enter to win an additional prize. A randomly selected weekend winner gets a Chikaming Open Lands swag bag. — STAFF REPORTS

# PET OF THE WEEK

## ALFREDO

**Alfredo is a big guy that knows to give both of his paws, nto hands and sits handsomely. He likes to carry his stuffies wherever he goes. When he is done strolling with his toys, he finds a big bed to lay down on. He's a friendly guy and likes to say "Hello" when out. Alfredo is neutered, and up-to-date with his vaccinations. He should be good with children 7-ish and older, although it really depends on the children and their interaction with Alfredo.**

**AVAILBLE AT THE MICHIANA HUMANE SOCIETY**

New Buffalo Times
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— SINCE 1942 —

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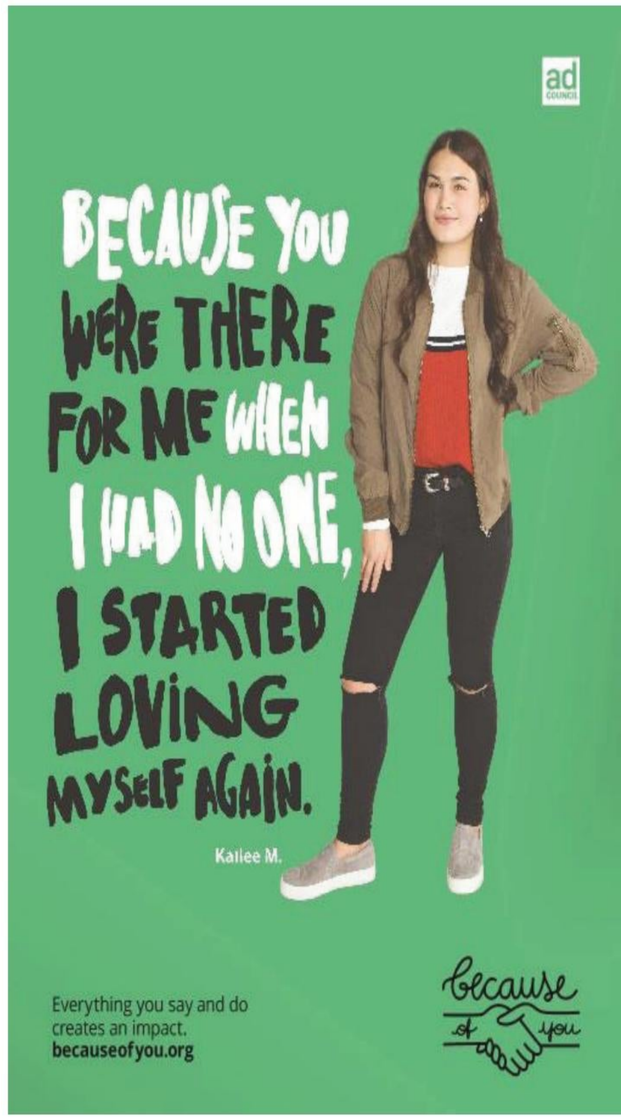
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# PUBLIC NOTICES

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH ELECTION NOTICE**

There are two spots open for re-election on the Village Council. These are each 4-year terms. Every person desiring to become a candidate for Village Council for the Village of Grand Beach shall personally or by duly authorized agent, file with the New Buffalo Township Clerk a petition therefore signed by not less than 10, nor more than 25 registered electors of the Village. Said petition shall be filed with the Township Clerk by July 23, 2024.

You may reach the Township Clerk, Michelle Hannon, at 269-469-1011 or mhannon@newbuffalotownship.org.

**KIMBERLY WOLNIK,**
**CLERK-TREASURER**
**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH**

Katie Burdett shows off the farmette in back Farmette

An exterior view of Farmette from U.S. Highway 12

Katie Burdett stands by Farmette's supply of cheese, sausages, dips and other fresh products

# Farmette offers glimpse into world of sustainability

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

A different kind of farm has taken root on U.S. Highway 12 in New Buffalo Township.

An organic farmer who had been growing food for chefs and restaurants in Chicago and southwest Michigan for the past 15 years, Katie Burdett said she was looking to bring her passion for the earth and growing things while living in the Union Pier area.

"I wanted a really small farm - something that didn't require a tractor, something that didn't require 1,000 acres or anything - but I wanted it to be really close to town as well, so the idea for Farmette came about with having a little, teeny, tiny farm, which is what a farmette is," she said.

An actual farmette, which Burdett said supplies the onsite marketplace/bakery/cafe, is located out back.

"We have fresh salad greens, herbs and flowers and we source everything else from our local farmers," Burdett said.

Guests can sit out back at the tables and chairs and view the farmette, while sipping their drinks from the cafe. The small coffee shop features on tap cold drinks and what Burdett describes as a "casual menu." A variety of baked goods, such as fresh sourdough bread, can also be purchased there.

"We've had a lot of really cute groups of people that show up and grab a cup of coffee and hang out here - I just love that people do that, it's very joyful for me to see people relaxing here," Burdett said.

Upon entering the other room, guests will find a variety of more fresh products - lettuce and other vegetables as well as fruits, cheeses, pastas, chorizo sausages, eggs from Turkey Foot Farm in La Porte, olive oil, Acacia honey, jams, coffee from Red Arrow Roasters, tinned fish, and readymade salads and dips. Almost one wall of shelves is devoted to wine.

Speciality gift items, such as candlesticks, can be found at a center table. Bouquets of flowers from The Grace Effect in Baroda are located by the register.

"The idea is we're offering anything for you to be able to have a really beautiful food experience, either at home or the beach or even out here in our backyard - so you can get a beach blanket and beach bag, grab a loaf of sourdough bread, a bottle of wine, some really delicious sustainable cheeses... Everything that we carry is under the umbrella of sustainability, so there's some sort of component there that's important to us and we try to buy as local as possible as well," Burdett said.

A self-professed "salad snob" who said she's "really passionate about good food," Burdett said that she wants guests to get a little taste of what it means to enjoy sustainable food.

"I'm not trying to shove it into your face - 'Here's how food is grown '- it's really very casual...I think that kind of food tastes better, it's super fresh, super nutritious," she said, adding that the farmette is a no till, no spray one.

Burdett, who said she's been loving getting to know the local community, said that she plans on people having the multifaceted experience of Farmette year-round, with it being closed on holidays.

"Something I love is the ability to mesh all those worlds: To be able to have an experiential component to what we do and for people to be able to actually see and experience what we're doing right here - and then we also love to support the agricultural community around here, which is extremely robust," she said.

Farmette is located at 18439 U.S. Highway 12 in New Buffalo. Current hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday through Monday.

A wall of shelves is well stocked with wine

Candlesticks and other items are on display in Farmette

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